

Discussion Question Grading Rubric

Criteria	1 – Basic	1.5 - Proficient	2 – Outstanding
Timeliness	Responds to most postings several days after initial discussion; limited initiative; some or all postings missing	Responds to most postings within a 24 hour period; some not in time for others to read and respond	Consistently responds to postings within 24 hours; demonstrates good self-initiative
Critical Thinking	Generally competent, information is thin and commonplace	Substantial information; thought, insight, and analysis has taken place	Rich in content; full of thought, insight and analysis
Stylistics	Obvious grammatical or stylistic errors; errors interfere with content (5 or more), grossly negligent of word count	Several grammatical or stylistic errors (3 or more), incorrect word count	Few grammatical or stylistic errors (2 or less), correct word count
Uniqueness	Few, if any new ideas or connections; rehash or summarize other postings	New ideas or connections; lack depth and/or detail	New ideas, new connections, made with depth and detail
Relevance of Post	Post topics which do not relate to the discussion content; makes short or irrelevant remarks	Occasionally posts off topic; most posts are short in length and offer no further insight into the topic	Frequently posts topics that are related to discussion content; prompts further discussion of topic
Contribution to the Learning Community	Does not make effort to participate in learning community as it develops; seems indifferent	Occasionally makes meaningful reflection on group's efforts; marginal effort to become involved in group	Aware of needs of community; frequently attempts to motivate the group discussion; presents creative approaches to the topic

Keep in mind that your goal is to encourage discussion among your peers. Your response should be a springboard for a series of conversations. Therefore, the post should be challenging, thought provoking, and interesting to read. Avoid writing summaries or essays for the professor's viewing only. After your initial postings are made, you are required to respond to the post of at least one peer. In addition, you are encouraged to respond to any questions, thoughts, or comments made to you by your peers and professor.

Have fun with these assignments – and, as always, be sure to ask if you have any questions...